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ELKHART, INDIANA 46516 • MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 229 SO. SECOND STREET • (219) 294-5471

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**JAMES P. PERRON, Mayor**

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**COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE STATEMENT BY THE CITY OF ELKHART
REGARDING THE PROPOSED PLAN FOR REMEDIAL ACTION
FOR THE MAIN STREET WELL FIELD, ELKHART, INDIANA
AS PRESENTED JANUARY, 1991**

THE CITY ADMINISTRATION APPRECIATES THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW AND INPUT TO THE EPA'S RECOMMENDED PLAN FOR RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH MAIN STREET WELL FIELD CONTAMINATION.

WE HAVE REVIEWED THE RECOMMENDATION AND THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION IN DETAIL WITH THE PROJECT MANAGER FOR EPA AND THE EPA'S CONSULTANT, AND FEEL THAT THE RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE CONSISTING OF IN-SITU VACUUM EXTRACTION, PAINT LAYER REMOVAL, NEW INTERCEPTOR WELL SYSTEM AND CURRENT AIR STRIPPER, DEED RESTRICTIONS, AND GROUNDWATER MONITORING IS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATE. WE BELIEVE IT MEETS THE COMMUNITY'S NEEDS FOR AQUIFER RESTORATION IN THE ZONE OF CAPTURE OF THE PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY WELL FIELD. WE BELIEVE THE ACTION IS NECESSARY TO MEET THE COMMUNITY PRIORITY OF PROVIDING ADEQUATE QUANTITY OF SAFE QUALITY DRINKING WATER BOTH NOW AND IN THE FUTURE. FINALLY, WE BELIEVE THAT THE RECOMMENDED ALTERNATE INCORPORATES COST-EFFECTIVE PROVEN TECHNOLOGIES TO ACCOMPLISH THE CLEANUP GOALS.

ON BEHALF OF THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY, WE BELIEVE THAT THE SOLUTION HAS BEEN STUDIED THOROUGHLY DURING THE DECADE SINCE



DISCOVERY OF THE PROBLEM IN 1981 AND THE TIME IS NOW TO ACT. WE FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT THE COST HERETOFORE BORNE BY THE SUPERFUND TRUST FUND TO BE RESPONSIVE TO THE CITY'S REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE ON PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH WILL NOW BE BORNE BY PRIVATE PARTIES WHO ARE IDENTIFIED BY THE EPA AS RESPONSIBLE PARTIES. THERE WILL BE THOSE WHO EXPRESS CONCERN ABOUT THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED SOLUTION ON THE PARTIES IN ELKHART WHO WILL BEAR THE COST. THE CITY ADMINISTRATION'S FEELING IS THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS REMEDIAL ACTION IS ESSENTIAL TO THE LONG TERM ECONOMIC HEALTH OF THE COMMUNITY. THE FAILURE TO ACT IN A PROPER STEWARDSHIP ROLE TO RESTORE THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE VICINITY OF THIS PUBLIC WELL FIELD COULD HAVE A POTENTIALLY NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON OUR ABILITY TO RETAIN BUSINESSES, ATTRACT NEW BUSINESSES, AND PROMOTE THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN OUR COMMUNITY AS AN ATTRACTIVE PLACE TO LIVE AND WORK.

FINALLY, WE HOPE THAT EPA WILL WORK WITH THE PROBABLE RESPONSIBLE PARTIES ON FINANCIAL STRUCTURING OF A TRUST FUND TO PAY FOR THE COST OF THE NECESSARY ACTION IN A MANNER THAT HAS THE LEAST ADVERSE IMPACT ON THESE BUSINESSES WHICH ARE KEY EMPLOYERS IN THE ELKHART URBANIZED AREA.

PRESENTED JANUARY 7, 1991 AT THE PUBLIC HEARING HELD IN ELKHART, INDIANA. GARY A. GILOT, P.E., PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR.